

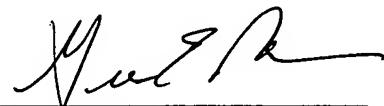
REMARKS

Claims 1-202 remain pending in this Application. Claims 76-116 and 184-201 were withdrawn from further consideration, and claims 138, 140, 165 and 167 are being amended.

Claims 138, 140, 165 and 167 are being amended to correct a minor informality. The expression "during said manufacturing" is being changed to "during a manufacturing," because the latter is more consistent with the preceding claim language. To the extent one having ordinary skill in the art would have readily understood what was intended by the original claim language, it is respectfully submitted that this minor correction of an informality is not necessitated by a reason relating to patentability. In this regard, no disclaimer or estoppel is intended as a result of this minor correction.

Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Date: December 13, 2006

By: 
Guillermo E. Baeza
Registration No. 35,056

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP
1650 Tysons Boulevard
McLean, VA 22102
Tel: (703) 770-7900

GEB/pj

Customer No. 00909